

New-York Daily Tribune

FRIDAY, MARCH 16, 1866.

Terms of the Tribune.
 DAILY TRIBUNE.
 Mail subscribers, { \$10.00
 1 copy, 1 year—311 numbers.
 SEMI-WEEKLY TRIBUNE.
 1 copy, 1 year—104 numbers, \$4.00
 2 copies, do., \$7.00
 5 copies, or over, for each copy, 3.00
 WEEKLY TRIBUNE.
 1 copy, 1 year—52 numbers, \$2.00
TERMS OF ADVERTISING IN THE TRIBUNE.
 DAILY TRIBUNE, ordinary advertisements, classified under their proper heads, 15 cents per line, each insertion.
 WEEKLY TRIBUNE, \$1 per line, each insertion; on fifth page, \$1.50 per line.
 SEMI-WEEKLY TRIBUNE, 25 cents per line, each insertion.
 THE TRIBUNE, New-York.

To Advertisers.
 We will thank our advertising customers to hand in their advertisements at as early an hour as possible. If received after 9 o'clock they cannot be classified under their proper heads.

To Correspondents.
 No notice can be taken of Anonymous Communications. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer—not necessarily for publication, but as a warranty for his good faith.
 All business letters for this office should be addressed to "The Tribune," New-York.
 We cannot undertake to return rejected Communications.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

FOREIGN NEWS.
 The steamship Africa, from Liverpool, March 3, via Queenstown March 4, arrived at Halifax yesterday.
 Mr. Gladstone announced in the House of Commons that on March 12 he would bring in a reform bill.
 The English Government has secured a steamer fitting out for the Republic of Colombia. It is rumored that Spanish iron-clads, fitted out in the Thames, have also been seized.
 The proceedings of the Special Jamaica Commission reveal acts of frightful inhumanity committed by the soldiers. The truth is worse than all previous reports.

GENERAL NEWS.
 The Metropolitan Board of Health appeared to be efficiently operating, and will, undoubtedly, soon be able to enforce all the regulations which it has adopted or may adopt. Yesterday the official contract, the sewers, the oystermen and the vegetable dealers severally came in for a share of attention.
 Fortresses Monroe dispatches indicate a very unsettled state of mind on the part of the crowded negro population of the Peninsula as to emigrating to Florida. A meeting at Hampton called for the purpose of promoting that object ended in a very disorderly and indecorous manner.
 An inquest on the body of Charles Zech, the person who dangerously assaulted his wife in Fifty-third-st. last Monday, and subsequently took his own life, was held yesterday, and a verdict was rendered in accordance with the facts previously published.
 There were several heavy mail contracts closed at Washington on Wednesday, mostly for routes in the far West. The prices were generally below those of four years since; the net reduction of outlay being about 15 per cent.

A meeting in favor of the Universalist missionary enterprise, was held last evening, in Dr. Chapin's Church. Addresses were delivered by Mr. H. Greeley and others, and the sum of \$1,249.50 was subscribed.

The arrival of 200 regulars at Buffalo, on Wednesday, caused some commotion there, and much speculation as to the purpose of their mission, particularly as more soldiers were expected.

The Court-House investigation proceeded yesterday, and there were some manifestations of a purpose to go on as rapidly as possible with the business of the commission.

A deduction of \$12,000 by a book-keeper at Williamsburgh is reported to-day. A note from the delinquent intimates a purpose on his part to commit suicide.

It is reported that Mr. John T. Monroe, who was lately elected Mayor of New-Orleans, will not be allowed to exercise the functions of that office.

There was a very destructive fire on board the steamship San Jacinto yesterday morning, consuming property worth \$175,000.

The investigation of the distillery frauds on the Internal Revenue Department still continues at the Astor House.

The reported plots to assassinate the Governor-General of Canada are pronounced destitute of foundation.

To correct misapprehension, the statement is given to-day that none of the stolen \$1,500,000 has been recovered.

Gold opened at 130½, and closed at 131, after selling at 131½. Government stocks are steady, with only moderate sales at the Board. Railway mortgages and State bonds were not so active. The miscellaneous states are still neglected, and hardly enough done to make quotations. Money on call is abundant to brokers at 5 per cent and loans above 7 rate upon any marketable collateral. The rate for very prime mercantile bills is rather lower, and some names pass under 7 per cent. The quotation is 7½, good, 2½, and ordinary, 10½ to 15 per cent. The business of the Sub-Treasury was: Receipts, \$1,023,230 34; for Customs, \$391,600; Payments, \$1,022,601 15—on account of Loans, \$370,600; Balance, \$91,905 24. Coin certificates \$109,000.

CONGRESS.
SENATE.
 MARCH 15.—Mr. Sumner from the Committee on Foreign Affairs, reported a resolution protesting against the shipping of foreign criminals to the United States, and requesting the President of the United States to cause a copy of this protest to be communicated to the representatives of the United States in foreign countries, with instructions to present it to the Governments where they are accredited respectively, and to insist that no such acts shall, under any circumstances, be repeated. The resolution was laid on the table and ordered to be printed. Mr. Kiddle from the Printing Committee, reported a resolution to print 10,000 copies of the report of the Joint Committee on Reconstruction, with the accompanying testimony, for the use of the Senate. An amendment to substitute 6,000 for 10,000 was lost and the resolution agreed to. Mr. Trumbull called up the Civil Rights bill, the question being on concurrence in the House amendments. The amendments were agreed to and the bill will be presented to the President for his signature. Mr. Trumbull gave notice that he would call up the contested New-Jersey case next Monday. Mr. Fessenden called up the Deficiency bill, pending the consideration of which the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE.
 On motion of Mr. Higby, the Senate acts granting aid in the construction of a railroad and telegraph line from the town of Polom to the town of Placerville, in the State of California, and also for a railroad and telegraph line from Placerville to the most feasible point of intersection with the Pacific Railroad, in the State of Nevada, were taken from the Speaker's table, read twice, and referred to the Committee on the Pacific Railroad. Mr. Smith obtained leave to make a personal explanation. The Indian Appropriation bill was read twice and referred to the Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union, and made the special order for Thursday next. The House resumed, during the morning hour, the consideration of the bill to amend the act relating to the Habeas Corpus, and re-

lating judicial proceedings in certain cases, approved March, 1863. The morning hour having expired before the close of the debate, the bill went over to the next morning hour. Mr. T. Owbridge was appointed a third member of the Committee on Enrolled Bills. The House then proceeded, as a special order, to the consideration of the Loan bill.

LEGISLATURE.

SENATE.
 MARCH 15.—Bills were passed incorporating the Sisters of the Poor of St. Francis, New-York. For extending provisions of general manufacturing law to business of building or keeping a hotel; incorporating the Sunbeam Building Association. In the evening session the consideration of the Senate resolutions on National affairs, heretofore adopted by the Assembly, was resumed, but not concluded.

ASSEMBLY.
 On motion of Mr. Williams, the Niagara Frontier Police bill was made the special order for Tuesday next. Bills were passed for providing that only the expenses of successful claimants of seats in either branch of the Legislature shall be paid. To amend the charter of the City of New-York. To regulate and increase the salaries of the Metropolitan Police force. In the evening session the consideration of the Eight-Hour bill was resumed. An amendment was adopted excepting agriculture and team labor, after which the bill passed to a third reading by a vote of 45 to 20.

The amendments to the Civil Rights Bill, as it came from the House, were yesterday accepted by the U. S. Senate without other opposition than a futile attempt of Mr. Davis of Kentucky to postpone action indefinitely. The bill now needs only the signature of the President to become the law of the land, and to secure to all persons born in the United States, the rights of citizenship. The provisions of the bill are ample to protect the citizen in his rights, so far as they can be secured by a general law, and it is a fitting corollary to the act of Emancipation. It is a great and important step gained, and will go further toward a true reconstruction of the lately rebellious States than any measure yet stamped upon the statute-book of the Union. The country will look anxiously for the announcement that it has received the signature of the President.

We hear from a trustworthy source that the Democrats are not so sanguine as a few days since that the President is to put himself at the head of their party. It is even whispered that they demand an explicit declaration of what they may expect before they proceed further with assurances of their distinguished consideration. Possibly they may be helped to an understanding of the situation by the advice to the Pennsylvania Clymer deputation, "to go home and change their ticket," and that they had made a fatal mistake. That sort of Democracy, at any rate, does not seem to find favor in the President's eyes. Ex-Rebel Mayors in Southern States, and Seesh Governors in Northern States are evidently not to his liking, whatever he thinks of the Radicals.

If all the Railroad bills introduced into the Legislature at Albany shall pass, New-York will be as completely crossed with rails as a sieve is with wires. Yesterday bills were introduced for roads in Courtlandt, Dey, and other streets; in Seventy-ninth, and other streets; in Houston, and other streets; and an elevated road in Broadway, Spring, and other streets. There are others now before the Legislature.

Mr. Garret Davis consumed much of the time of the U. S. Senate, yesterday, in opposing a resolution to print 10,000 copies of the report of the Committee on Reconstruction. He evidently thought that the less was known about that evidence the better, and we don't wonder. The testimony given, voluminous and unquestionable as it is, is of a sort that he does not like to believe in.

A bill was yesterday introduced into the State Senate to establish a Metropolitan Board of Public Works to take charge of the public works and buildings, and embracing all the City Departments except the Police, Fire, Health Commissioners and Commissioners of Charities.

The President yesterday gave authority to a citizen of New-Orleans, in Washington, to telegraph home that orders had gone to Gov. Wells of Louisiana, not to permit the newly elected Mayor and ex-Rebel Monroe to be installed into office. Good.

The New-York Assembly yesterday passed the Eight-hour bill to a third reading, by a vote of 45 to 20. An amendment excepting agricultural and team labor was previously adopted.

KENTUCKY.
 The "Democrats" of Kentucky have called a State Convention to reorganize their party, to meet at Louisville, May 1st. The Louisville Journal objects that those who call it are ex-Rebels. But the Journal cooperated with that breed in supporting McClellan and Pendleton in '64 and in successful opposition to "the Radicals" in 1865. The Journal's "Conservative" party has enfranchised the Rebels, and they are destined to rule the State—till they drive her over to the "Radicals." The Journal and its clique of half-and-half are now stigmatized by the Democrats as "fossil remains of extinct parties that have heretofore opposed the Democracy." Hit 'em again!

Gen. Joe Johnston, we hear with pleasure, is employing above five hundred of his old Rebel soldiers on the Orange and Alexandria Railroad, which he is refitting. This is the right kind of Reconstruction. We do not doubt that there are thousands of Whites in the South who would go to work likewise if they had a fair chance. And we urge all Southerners who reject Free Black labor, or who can't get it, to follow Gen. Johnston's example. Don't send to Ireland, or Germany, or the North, for White laborers, till you have advertised widely and offered fair wages for them among your own people. Rely on it, gentlemen.

men, there is nothing like Home Industry to make a country prosperous and its people virtuous and happy.

THE VITAL QUESTION.
 Throughout our great struggle, the enemies in Congress of the War for the Union submitted proposition after proposition affirming that the revolted States were not out of the Union. (See Vallandigham's resolve, Dec. 5, 1862. Holman's, Dec. 14, 1863, and many others.) The Republican majority uniformly laid these resolves on the table, thereby indicating its decided dissent from their doctrine and purpose.

This same old song is now revived in the interest of the defeated Rebels, who propose to rule the Nation that they proved too weak in power but not in will to ruin. Thus *The N. Y. Times* says:

"We are, as long as Congress holds that States are out of the Union, connecting a lie. The reverse of this proposition was affirmed in 1861 by an almost unanimous vote of Congress. To maintain that position, the people gave up millions of treasure and rivers of blood. And now Congress holds that the States which we insisted could not be taken out of the Union are out of it! Success would have converted the Rebellion into a revolution. Then the rebellious States would have come an independent Confederacy. But defeat leaves the States in the Union and the Union intact."

—We believe the Editor of *The Times* has not yet responded to a request made in the House that he would define the State which he insists has never been out of the Union. If he means the territory included within the limits of Virginia, Georgia, or Texas, there is no room for disagreement. But if he means the political corporation whereof William Smith, or Joseph E. Brown, or Pendleton Murrah, was Governor one year since, then the loyal people of the United States decidedly dissent. They recognize no right in that State to a voice in the councils of the Union.

But if by a State the people are intended—and you mean the whole people—we can easily come to an understanding. We will take South Carolina for an illustration of the matter really in dispute. She has a population whereof a large majority are unquestionably loyal to the Union and hostile to a monopoly of power by the authors and upholders of the late Rebellion. This majority do not choose to repudiate the National Debt nor to be taxed to pay that incurred in upholding the Rebellion. Let the State be so reorganized as to give this loyal majority a fair and equal voice in its government, and we have no shadow of doubt that her "restoration" will soon be complete.

But the President's South Carolina is made up almost wholly of ex-Rebels—of men who submit to the Union as a dire necessity—who keenly deplore the victories of its arms, and curse the Emancipation policy whereby its triumph was secured—and who are determined to keep the loyal majority not only disfranchised but uneducated, dependent, and as nearly slaves as possible. Now, then, the loyal people have not lavished "millions of treasure and rivers of blood" in order to reestablish the selfish, despotic rule of the defeated Rebel oligarchy of the South over their loyal fellow citizens. They do not regard such a restoration as worth its fearful cost. They demand instead a "reconstruction" which shall secure to the loyal majority of the South Carolinians a voice in the government of their own State and of the Union—a chance to live and labor, to earn and enjoy, under equal and just laws. This is venomously resisted by the Rebels of the South and the Copperheads of the North. And this raises the Main Question now fitly engrossing the public attention. Why does *The Times* seek to shuffle it out of sight?

OFFICE-PATRONAGE.
 The late Postmaster at Forrestville, Conn., has been removed—so it is said—for verbal abuse of the President's late Veto Message and 23d of February speech. The organ in this City of the Slaveholders' Confederacy throughout our late Civil War, thus elucidates at once its approval of this removal and its devotion to Free Speech.

The Postmaster at Forrestville, Conn., has been removed for using abusive language toward the President. It needs not to be reiterated that we are the champions of free speech. The record of *The Daily News* too plainly shows that it holds the right to a free expression of opinion to be one of the most valuable and sacred of the principles of American citizenship. We do not censure the ex-Postmaster of Forrestville for uttering his views in regard to the character and policy of his Chief Magistrate, except in so far as he may have outraged decency in applying disrespectful and insulting epithets to one so high in office. But, while we admit the right of the subordinate to censure his superior, we cannot dispute the right of the superior to withdraw his patronage from the subordinate that thus induces his extreme criticism. Mr. Johnson has thus far been extremely lenient in dealing with Federal office-holders who are legions with his opponents. He has manifested no desire to order the officials who served under his predecessor, nor has he even taken advantage of his prerogative to displace the members of the Cabinet to make room for advisers more warmly attached to his person, or more earnestly sympathizing with his principles. But the war against his Administration is becoming too hot to justify much longer any such toleration. The Executive cannot afford to support out of the National exchequer a legion of his adversaries, each one intent upon wounding the hand from which they receive their emoluments. The interests of the country, dependent upon the triumph of the Executive policy, demand that the recipients of the Federal patronage should be firm and zealous friends of the Administration. At all events, there is neither justice nor safety in retaining a nest of leopards and active enemies in positions where their influence helps to paralyze the Administrative arm."

—The single point on which we suggest that *The Daily News* should revise the above oracular utterance is that which makes the Federal offices in general the property or perquisite of the President. "His patronage," "his prerogative," "the Executive cannot afford to support out of the National exchequer," &c., &c., are phrases which strike us as singularly inappropriate. The President is but a trustee, and is bound to use his power over his subordinates for high public ends, and those only. If considerations of public duty shall impel him, for example, to make Mr. Ben. Wood Postmaster of this City, and fill all other Federal offices with the late stipendiaries of the Jeff. Davis Confederacy, we have nothing to say. If, on the other hand, he should make such appointments in deference to the interests or the feelings of Andrew Johnson, considering the filling of all Federal offices, "his patronage," or "his prerogative," he would make a very grave mistake—one for which the Constitution affords no warrant and no excuse. Let us "hold fast the form of sound words."

The Evening Post states that *The Nationalist*, Mobile, Ala., condemns the President's veto of the Freedmen's Bureau bill, and adds: "It is worthy of note in how much better temper

this is done by *The Nationalist* than by *The New-York Tribune*."

—We challenge *The Post* to cite from our article on the Veto (printed therewith), anything that justifies the above.

CONNECTICUT.

The Republican majority in our sister State ranges from 2,000 to 5,000; yet Gov. Buckingham was re-elected last year by 11,035. *The World* thus truthfully explains that remarkable result:

"The election last year, when Buckingham rolled up a majority of 11,000, may be said to have gone by default. On the very day of the election, cannon were firing over the whole State for the fall of Richmond, and for Lee's surrender. It was a holiday, rather than a work-day, at the polls. Thousands of Democrats stayed at home at the time."

Holidays naturally bring out Democrats in swarms, but not a holiday caused by Richmond's recovery to the Union and Lee's surrender. "Democrats," of the Connecticut stripe, didn't like to be seen in the streets on such an occasion. Your true Copperhead preferred the chill and slime of his den to the light and warmth of the public exultation. Hence, you see, "thousands of Democrats stayed at home," and let the election go by default: rather than meet their neighbors' joyful salutation: "You told us the War would never end if Lincoln should be re-elected. What do you think now?"

Yes, *The World* is right for once. A vote taken in Connecticut while "cannon were firing over the whole State" for the final collapse of the Slaveholders' Rebellion, proves nothing as to the popular sentiment. It was not a fair test. That is afforded by the two recent elections wherein each party did its best and each was confident of success. These were the State Election of 1863, when T. H. Seymour was run on the heel of Burnside's bloody repulse at Fredericksburg, Grant's long pause in front of Vicksburg, and the shamefully inexplicable disaster to our arms in Galveston harbor; and the Presidential Election of 1864. At these two Elections, the aggregate vote of Connecticut stood:

1863.	1861.
Buckingham.....41,072	Lincoln.....44,691
Seymour.....20,637	McClellan.....42,385
Repub. maj.....20,435	Repub. maj.....2,406

The real majority in the State, when every vote is called out, is just about 2,500; and it is this which the Sham Democracy, by crying "Johnson!" "Johnson!" and putting up a fair man for Governor, who voted in Congress for the Constitutional Amendment, are now striving to overcome.

We rejoice that our friends in that State are making the contest one of principle solely. They do not assail the opposing candidates. They present for Governor one who, believing it was right to uphold the Union by arms, when traitors conspired to subvert it by arms, volunteered to fight, and fought to the end with the hearty approbation of his superiors. Gen. Hawley fought to put down the Rebellion, while nine-tenths of those who will vote for his competitor in their hearts desired the failure of the War and the virtual triumph of the Rebels.

Mr. English is said to have been a War Democrat; but his record does not sustain that avowment. He voted, with Vallandigham, Voorhees and Ben. Wood, in a minority of 49 against 115, to defeat the act of March 3, 1863, "enrolling and calling out the National forces," which in fact determined that the Rebellion should be put down at whatever cost—an act without which it could not have been put down. He voted against the Supplementary Act of July 4, 1864, striking out the \$300 exemption, and requiring every one who should be drafted to serve in person or by substitute. He voted, Dec. 17, 1863, to lay on the table Green Clay Smith's resolve that, in the struggle which had been forced on the loyal people of this country, there could be but two parties—patriots and traitors; and, this motion being defeated, he voted Nay on that proposition. In short, Mr. English fairly represents the party which in 1863 re-elected him to Congress on the T. H. Seymour ticket, and which failed to reflect him last April, simply because the Rebellion had collapsed and Richmond been restored to the Union, only a day or two before. Gen. Hawley, on the other hand, fairly represents that party which carried the country successfully through the War, and is now fully resolved not to surrender to the defeated Rebels the fruits of its victory. And the voters of Connecticut will take due notice and govern themselves accordingly.

IMPORTANT EVIDENCE.
 The evidence relative to the reconstruction policy of the Government in the late Rebel States which on Wednesday, in reply to repeated requests, was laid before both Houses of Congress, sheds much light on the sentiments of the Southern States and the views of the Government.

With regard to the former, it becomes, in particular, apparent that it required an extraordinary amount of Executive pressure to prevail upon them to accept the Constitutional Amendment. Without this pressure, it is clear that none of them would have thought of ratifying a measure so extremely offensive. Most of them yielded only when they were given to understand that without the ratification a restoration of their constitutional rights would not be possible. Alabama, however, as well as South Carolina, adopted the second part of the amendment only, "with the understanding" that it does not confer upon Congress the power to legislate upon the political status of the freedmen in their several States. Mississippi found, however, this second part so dangerous a character that it withstood all the exhortations of the President and declined the ratification. The report adopted on this subject by the Legislature is one of the most remarkable documents of the whole collection laid before Congress. They frankly state that they oppose the Amendment because it would "break down the efficient authority and sovereignty of the State over its internal and domestic affairs." As a whole, this evidence leaves no doubt that without the interference of the Federal Government all the late Slave States would claim an unlimited right to legislate on the status of the Freedmen, and that this status, if solely decided in the South-

ern legislatures, would vary but little from the condition which was formerly called Slavery.

As regards the views of the Government, it seems that both the President and Mr. Seward were fully satisfied with the forced submission of the Southern Legislatures to the Amendment, and that they were of opinion that by the more act of ratification the Southerners had removed the last obstacle to an entire reunion.

Legal Tender.

To the Editor of *The N. Y. Tribune*.
 SIR: Senator Sherman's bill to prevent the redemption of legal-tender notes, is, I venture to say, without a precedent in the whole history of finance. If this bill becomes a law we will see gold at 140 in ten days thereafter. That is my prediction, and I will venture another, namely: That if Congress will enact that on and after the 1st of July, 1866, a certain proportion, say one-fifth of the customs duties may be paid in legal tenders and the same canceled, we will see gold at 120 by the beginning of the next fiscal year, July 1, 1866. FROST-ST.

The Pennsylvania Convention.

To the Editor of *The N. Y. Tribune*.
 SIR: In your issue of this date, you fall into error in stating that the resolutions of the Convention which nominated Gen. Geary, which you quote were passed by the vote of 109 to 21. The fact is, every resolution of the platform proper, except the resolution referring to President Johnson, was received with the most lively expressions of satisfaction, and passed without the slightest dissent. The resolution referring to the President was a compromise between the men who did not like to stir up the animal, and those who preferred to pass the President in silence. As a compromise, 109 delegates swallowed the resolution with many grimaces of disgust. Twenty-one refused to vote for the resolution: No more earnest or harmonious Convention ever assembled. A DELEGATE.

Harrisburg, March 9, 1866.

A paragraph of City news which we published a few days since, stating that *The New-York Sun* had purchased the premises fronting on Tryon Row for \$180,000, is, we are authentically assured, erroneous. There have been negotiations, but no sale as yet, and the property is held at a higher figure.

The New Court-House Inquiry.

The investigation into the charges of extravagance in the matter of the construction of the New Court-House was continued yesterday afternoon before the Special Committee of the Board of Supervisors. Present, Supervisor Fox and a quorum.

John Kellum was the first witness sworn, and testified as follows: Am the architect of the New Court-House, do not know the quantity of iron put in the Court-House since its commencement, it can be ascertained very nearly, at any time, for all practical purposes, as the building contains no iron, and the only iron which the party who would receive the contract, do not know what amount has been expended upon the Court-House thus far, in his judgment there could be an estimate made that would be the possible cost of the building, could be estimated within the range of probabilities, in his opinion in two weeks wages could form an estimate how much of the building was finished, and what remained to be done.

Mr. Cram thought that this was a matter which should be introduced here. Charges of extravagance had been made against the Committee of the Board of Supervisors, and those charges were to be tried here.

Witness did not know in whose possession the contract for the brick work was; before the bids for the iron work on the Court-House were put in, witness had been to Washington and seen the iron work on the extension of the Capitol, he had received instructions from the architect to come to his office and look upon the plans for the building; to come there and make their estimates, was directed to notify three or four good iron men; never had any question from the Supervisors as to who the party who would receive the contract, does not know what amount has been expended upon the Court-House thus far, in his judgment there could be an estimate made that would be the possible cost of the building, could be estimated within the range of probabilities, in his opinion in two weeks wages could form an estimate how much of the building was finished, and what remained to be done.

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